**Friends of the Sonoma Valley Library Board Meeting – Minutes September 9, 2021**

Present: Madolyn Agrimonti, Ken Brown, Janet Constantino, Kathleen Gray, Tom Haeuser, Robin Kunde, Robyn Makaruk, Sabine Salek, Karen Sanders, Beverly Seyfert, Marge Thomas, Janette Tschann, Sarah Vantrease

*Note: Meeting was in the form of a Zoom conference.*

Meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m.

Minutes of the August 2021 meeting approved

*New Business*: Janet welcomed our new Branch Manager, Sabine Salek

*Unfinished Business*: Our partnership with Sonoma Federal Credit Union has been activated, though we have had no contributions to date.

 *President*:

* Robin will represent us at the Friends and Foundations meeting, Sept. 21.
* Status of search for book sale coordinator: No viable volunteer yet; Janet had one offer “for pay”, Janette had one offer “though she expected to be paid ‘for her professionalism’.” We did have one very proficient new volunteer who worked the book sale, and others who offered to volunteer, though not as coordinator. **Robin will work with Janette and Robyn to develop a way to attract a viable candidate**. *Discussion included*: Robyn saw the complex logistics of the sale; we cannot expect another Dave or Carol; perhaps the job could be parsed out.
* Our Star Volunteer this year is Susan Shinomoto. She cannot attend the event, but **Karen and Robyn will accept the award for her.**

*Vice President*:

* October is the annual meeting and the election of officers. *It was agreed***: Nominating Committee of Robin Kunde, Marge Thomas, and Karen Sanders will provide a candidate for the position of Secretary**, the only term expiring. **Marge will send to Kathleen an announcement of the annual meeting with information that the zoom link will be on the SVFOL web site. The site address will be in the notice.**
* Soon we need to discuss annual December gathering with a plan to attract as many members as possible.
* The Kunde Trust has distributed $219,713. The original amount of the Trust was $$772,729, The current amount is $805,475, more than the original fund despite distributions. *Discussion:* Jane would be asking, “And what will the money be spent on?” There is still unspent distributed funds. The branch and the LAB need to develop ways to use this gift. There is a difference between equitable and fair. The analogy: the SV library can’t look like the Ritz while the, for instance, Roseville library looks like a Howard Johnson’s. A need for pods has been considered. The strategic plan may have components that would work within the perimeters.

*Secretary*: No report

*Treasurer*: Report previously distributed. **Robyn will work with Janette or others to determine the costs of PayPal and Square**, both of which take a percentage of donations made through these instruments. Two new memberships came from the book sale.

*Member-at-Large*: The book sale volunteers worked diligently through the challenging heat of the day. **Karen will send a note of gratitude to those volunteers.**

*Membership*: Kathleen reported no new memberships except for the two from the book sale.

*Publicity*: No report

*Branch Manager*:

* New services include an extension of the “book bundle” program from children’s’ books to books for teens and adults. Patrons indicate the sorts of books they like; librarians choose 10 for a bundle.
* The parking lot voting box has seen much use. It is available through election day, Sept. 14.
* In addition to our database access to the *New York Times*, we have added access to the *Wall Street Journal*, a 3-day pass, and the *Washington Post*, 7-day pass.
* Our hours remain as they have been a slight increase in in-person patrons. We saw 13,688 check-outs and over 5,000 in person visits over the last period.
* We have a new staff person *NAME?* whose fluency in Spanish is an additional asset, and we are interviewing for both a teen and adult services librarian.
* Latinx programs are increasing, including reading and crafts programs. Also increasing, requests for class visits. Sonoma Valley Parent University has requested more classes, and we are working with Vintage House to present a technology class.

*Committees*

*Book Sales*: Janette reported that the August sale was a success. People were in a celebratory, party mood. Huge crowds at the beginning and a steady flow of people through the day. Voters had no problem getting to the box, satisfied to walk through. We grossed $4,589 and about 3,100 books were recirculated back to the community. Many thanks to Karen for publicity and Kathleen for posting on NextDoor.

*Commission:* Tom reported for the Commission and the County Administration:

* The Roseland branch opens on Sept. 12, after a long road to get to this point.
* The archives have been moved from Los Guilicos to a safer storage building near the airport.
* The new branch manager, Sabine, is great and her position is permanent from the beginning.
* We are still operating one day at a time regarding library hours and services. The Delta variant is unpredictable and there are still many hold-outs for the vaccines.
* We have two very good candidates for CFO, both of whom are from Northern California. Second interviews are in place.

*City Council:*

* Madolyn reported on City Council meeting: It was discovered that Zoom connection is affected if attendees in the room try to use Zoom. Over 30 calls regarding the agenda.
* There is an interest in adding a second cannabis dispensary to the one already approved. Madolyn voted “no” until the first shop is completed.
* Hotels report increasing patronage.
* Water saving kits are still available and very useful, with dyes for tracking leaks, low flow faucets and other tools.
* Madolyn will work to attract book sale volunteers from the Women’s Club membership.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 Next meeting October 14, includes the Annual Meeting

Further discussion on that meeting: Sabine will send out Zoom invitation. Kathleen will send info to members. Laurie will be asked to post Zoom link on website.

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Thomas